Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02821 111736Z
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 PA-02 SCA-01 DHA-02
L-03 H-02 SY-05 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 /047 W
----------111744Z 127852 /47
O P 111708Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9834
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS LAGOS 02821

FOR SCS AND AF/W

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CASC (DARNTON, JOHN)
SUBJ: FMG SECURITY FORCE QUESTIONS NEW YORK TIMES BUREAU
CHIEF DARNTON

1. AT 1215 GMT WIFE OF TIMES BUREAU CHIEF JOHN DARTON PHONED PAO TO SAY HE HAD SENT HER MESSAGE THAT POLICE SEARCHING HIS OFFICE WITH INTENTION OF ARRESTING HIM. AFTER CHECKING WITH CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION, PAO WENT TO TIMES OFFICE AND SAT THERE WITH DARNTON WHILE 4 SECURITY MEN (EVIDENTLY CID) MADE THOROUGH SEARCH OF PREMISES. AT 1340, CID TEAM DEPARTED TAKING DARNTON WITH THEM "FOR A LITTLE CHAT"; PAO ATTEMPT TO GO WITH DARNTON BUT CID OFFICER REFUSED STRONGLY BUT POLITELY SAYING THERE WAS NO NEED, INDICATING THAT DETENTION OF DARNTON WAS NOT FORESEEN. DARNTON WAS TO PHONE PAO SOON AS "CHAT" FINISHED.

2. AT 1545, MRS. DARNTON CONTACTED PAO TO REPORT THAT CID HAD BROUGHT HER HUSBAND BACK TO THEIR HOME, SPENT AN HOUR SEARCHING PREMISES AND DEPARTED WITH HIM FOR CID OFFICE. DARNTON TOLD HIS WIFE THAT HE HAD NOT YET HAD "CHAT" AT CID AND PRESUMED HE BEING TAKEN BACK TO CID FOR THAT PURPOSE. MRS. DARNTON SAID CID TEAM WAS POLITE AND GAVE NO INDICATION
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 02821 111736Z

THAT ARREST OF DARNTON INTENDED.

3. PAO IS FOLLOWING SITUATION CLOSELY AND LOOKING AFTER MRS. DARNTON AND CHILDREN.

4. APPEARS REASON FOR CID INTEREST WAS REPORT IN TODAY'S LAGOS DAILIES OF HIS EJECTION YESTERDAY FROM A MAGISTRATE'S

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

HEARING AIMED AT FINDING FACTS PERTINENT TO RECENT ALTERATION BETWEEN POPULAR MUSICIAN/CULTIST FELA ANIKULAPO-KUTI AND SOLDIERS IN WHICH FELA'S HOUSE BURNED AND HIS FOLLOWERS BEATEN UP.

5. MRS. DARNTON MAY NOTIFY NYT IF HUSBAND IS NOT RELEASED SHORTLY. WE RECOMMEND AGAINST ANY ACTION BY NYT OR USG AT THIS TIME, AS TOO EARLY AN APPROACH TO NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES MIGHT MAKE A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MOLEHILL.
CROSBY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS02821
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770084-0955
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770369/aaaacjcr.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b9cebab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3137715
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMG SECURITY FORCE QUESTIONS NEW YORK TIMES BUREAU CHIEF DARNTON
TAGS: CASC, (DARNTON, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b9cebab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009